## Message Text

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**ACTION EB-03** 

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 ARA-10 L-02 CAB-01 FAA-00

DOTE-00 NSC-07 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01

COME-00 DODE-00 DRC-01 /061 W ------ 123006

R 071305Z AUG 74 FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4023 INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY MEXICO AMEMBASSY PARIS

CONFIDENTIAL LUXEMBOURG 503

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: ETRN, LU SUBJ: AIR EUROPE

REF: A) STATE 165607 (NOTAL); B) LUXEMBOURG 0485

1. ON AUGUST 7 MFA DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS CHARLES REICHLING ASKED TO SEE DCM ABOUT OUR AUGUST 1 NOTE ON AIR EUROPE (REFTEL A). REICHLING EXPLAINED THAT GOL WAS EMBARRASSED TO REPLY OFFICIALLY TO THE US NOTE BECAUSE EMBASSY OFFICERS HAD INDICATED TWO YEARS AGO TO THE GOL THAT THE USG DID NOT OBJECT TO AIR EUROPE SERVICE. DCM REPLIED THAT, DESPITE WHAT MAY HAVE BEEN CONVEYED TWO YEARS AGO WHEN THE AIR EUROPE PROJECT WAS ONLY IN THEDISCUSSION STAGE, THE EMBASSY HAD MADE CLEAR TO TRANSPORTATION MINISTER MART AND LUXEMBOURG CIVIL AVIATION OFFICIALS, BOTH BEFORE AND AFTER THE GOL APPROVED AIR EUROPE SERVICE IN MAY 1974 THAT THE USG WAS UNHAPPY WITH TIJUANA-LUXEMBOURG SERVICE. OUR NOTE WAS DESIGNED TO HAVE USG POSITION CLEARLY BEFORE GOL WHEN AIR EUROPE APPLIES FOR A RENEWAL OF ITS CONFIDENTIAL

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AUTHORIZATION.

- 2. REICHLING ANSWERED THAT THE GOL IS ITSELF HAVING INCREASING DOUBTS ABOUT THE RELIABILITY AND VIABILITY OF AIR EUROPE.PESSIS IS REPORTED HAVING (UNSPECIFIED) FINANCIAL PROBLEMS AND THE GOL IS UPSET TO LEARN THAT LAKER AIRWAYS HAS ALREADY HAD TO PAY A HEAVY FINE IN THE US FOR ILLEGAL CHARTERING PRACTICES. FURTHER, REICHLING SAID THAT THE GOL WAS "SCANDALIZED" TO LEARN THAT MEXICAN CITIZENS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO BUY THE AIRLINE'S TICKETS, MAKING FLAGRANT AIR EUROPE'S BID TO DRAIN OFF AMERICAN CUSTOMERS FROM THE SOUTHWEST US.
- 3. WHEN ASKED BY THE DCM WHEN THE GOL MIGHT REVIEW ITS TEMPORARY AUTHORIZATION FOR AIR EUROPE, REICHLING SAID THAT CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITIES COULD OPEN STUDY ANY TIME BETWEEN SIX MONTHS AND TWO YEARS AFTER THE AUTHORIZATION WAS ISSUED. GIVEN THE RESERVATIONS EXPRESSED BY THE GOL AND USG, PLUS THE FACT THAT AIR EUROPE HAD STILL NOT BEEN ABLE TO START ITS SERVICE, REICHLING IMPLIED THAT A REVIEW OF THE AUTHORIZATION MIGHT TAKE PLACE BY THE END OF 1974. DCM EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR SUCH AN INQUIRY AS SOON AS LEGALLY POSSIBLE AND TOLD REICHLING THAT THE EMBASSY WOULD CONTINUE TO FURNISH INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO US ON AIR EUROPE. FARKAS

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## Message Attributes

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